

broad coalition of veterans service organizations, and Congress should take care before carving out exceptions to this policy. This does not mean, however, that just any lease will do. The VA must incorporate the views of local veterans groups whenever it makes decisions about how to utilize its property and any lease must preserve the integrity of the VA grounds.

This bill includes over \$1 billion for National Guard and Reserve construction. For too long, the needs of the National Guard and Reserve have not been adequately funded even while their responsibilities at home and abroad have grown exponentially. This bill increases funds for the National Guard and Reserve commensurate with their growing responsibilities.

I am concerned that the Department of Defense, according to the report of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has "yet to provide a comprehensive plan detailing the scope and cost of the total military construction requirement" associated with the increase in end strength of the Army and Marine Corps. Nor has the Defense Department properly accounted for the tremendous increase in the cost of realigning its force structure. And I am concerned that the Defense Department is proceeding with major new construction at Camp Lemonier in Djibouti even before the new AFRICOM commander has been confirmed, thereby undermining the stated goal of creating a more cohesive and coordinated approach to security in Africa. As chairman of the Subcommittee on African Affairs of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I am committed to ongoing oversight of the role of our Armed Forces in the overall U.S. strategy towards the African continent.

In conclusion, I am pleased that the Senate voted today to support the needs of members of the Armed Forces, the Reserves, veterans and their families. They have served our Nation selflessly and deserve our enduring support.

#### RETIREMENT OF ALEXIS T. LUM

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I would like to recognize a great American and a remarkable man, who has an exceptional record of public service. He has honorably served our country with distinction for over 43 years of active duty and National Guard Service, as well as 16 years of service as my executive assistant.

GEN Alexis Lum retired in February 1991 as the adjutant general for the State of Hawaii Army National Guard. His military service began in 1945, when he was drafted shortly after graduating from Roosevelt High School in Honolulu. He served as an enlisted man in the Pacific, attaining the rank of staff sergeant. When discharged in 1947, he became a student at the University of Hawaii where he received his bachelor of science degree in civil engineering and a ROTC commission as a second lieutenant.

He was recalled to active duty in April 1951 for the Korean conflict and served as an infantry platoon leader. Released from active duty in 1954, he then joined the Hawaii Army National Guard as a first lieutenant. As a major, he was part of the National Guard call-up in 1968 and served in the Republic of Vietnam, initially as the executive office of an engineer battalion. Promoted to lieutenant colonel while on this tour, he served his last 4 months in Vietnam as commander of the same battalion.

His National Guard service included varied command and staff positions. He was promoted to brigadier general in 1980 and was assigned as the assistant adjutant general, Army. In 1982 he was appointed as the adjutant general, Hawaii by Governor George Ariyoshi and was promoted to the rank of major general. He attended many military service schools including the Army's Command, General Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. His military decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with cluster, the Army Commendation Medal, and numerous service medals.

In his civilian life, between tours of active duty, he was an engineer with the Navy Civil Service at the Naval Ammunition Depot, Lualualei, Oahu. He started as a junior engineer in 1954 when he was released from active duty. He progressed to the director of the engineering division and deputy public works officer for the Naval Ammunition Depot. He retired from Federal civil service in 1982, when he was appointed the adjutant general.

His wife is Leimomi—Momi—Mookini Lum. She served for 32 years with the Honolulu Police Department, as a police investigator, and retired in 1982. Her last 20 years of police service involved working in the juvenile crime prevention division of the Police Department. Together they have three children, Mrs. Angela Thomas, Mrs. Alexia Carvalho, and Mr. Oliver Lum, and four granddaughters.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 1692. A bill to grant a Federal charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 2031. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to provide grants and flexibility through demonstration projects for States to provide universal, comprehensive, cost-effective systems of health care coverage, with simplified administration; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 2032. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out a competitive grant program for the Puget Sound area to provide comprehensive conservation planning to address water quality; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 2033. A bill to provide for greater disclosure to, and empowerment of, consumers who have entered into a contract for cellular telephone service; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. VITTER):

S. Res. 310. A resolution commending the city of Lafayette, Louisiana, for engaging in a year-long celebration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert Du Motier, commonly known as the Marquis de Lafayette; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mrs. DOLE, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 311. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 206

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 206, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 415

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 415, a bill to amend the Revised Statutes of the United States to prevent the use of the legal system in a manner that extorts money from State and local governments, and the Federal Government, and inhibits such governments' constitutional actions under the first, tenth, and fourteenth amendments.